

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on 04/03/2009. Claims 1-8, 10, 11, and 13-23 are allowed in the present application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence E. Ashery on 06/09/2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

12. (Cancelled).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-8, 10, 11, and 13-23 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Considering claims 1 and 14, the prior art of record discloses a plurality of radio communication devices scheduling transmission time for communicating with one another. The prior art of record also discloses giving notice of a collision to radio communication devices participating in a scheduling of transmission time process or when a communication link

between two communication devices has already been established.

However, after the amendment to the claims, applicant's remarks have been considered and found to be persuasive. In agreement with the applicant's remarks, the prior art of record failed to particularly disclose a step in which when the second radio communication device counts that the transmission prohibited time slot decided based on communication time reservation request information or communication time reservation response information or both which are not addressed to the second radio communication device overlaps with a time slot in which communication addressed to the second radio communication device is reserved, more than a predetermined number of times, the second radio communication device forwards communication time reservation request information and communication time reservation response information which are not addressed to it and which are received from that time onward, to radio communication devices in the transmittable area.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Marcos Batista, whose telephone number is (571) 270-5209. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez can be reached at (571) 272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

*/Marcos Batista/
Examiner*

*/Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617*

06/09/2009